

# Fulbourn Scrapbook 1897 to 1990

Facts, Features and (occasional) Fallacies  
reported in Cambridge Newspapers

summarised by

Mike Petty



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Most of these stories originally appeared in the Cambridge Daily/Evening/News or the  
Cambridgeshire Weekly News, its sister title.

They are supplemented by some articles published in the  
Cambridge Independent Press or Cambridge Chronicle

Most were featured in my ‘Looking Back’ column in the Cambridge News from 1996-2014

The complete ‘Cambridgeshire Scrapbook’ of which this is a small section is published online at  
[bit.ly/CambsCollection](http://bit.ly/CambsCollection)

I have digital and other copies of most of the stories summarised.  
I hope to publish these online one day. If you would like them in the meantime then please get in  
touch.

The original volumes are housed in the Cambridgeshire Collection at Cambridge Central Library  
where there are many other indexes dating back to 1770.

They also have detailed newspaper cuttings files on over 750 topics that have been compiled since the  
1960s.

Newspapers sometimes get things wrong. I copy things out incorrectly. Do check

There are a multitude of spelling and layout errors. Please forgive or correct them

News never stops but this file was finished on 31 August 2016.

I will maintain supplements and corrections – contact me for anything you need

Please make what use of these notes that you may. Kindly remember where they came from

See my website – [www.mikepetty.org.uk](http://www.mikepetty.org.uk) for further notes.

Mike Petty, Stretham

2017

## Preface

These stories relating to Fulbourn from 1897 to 1990 represent only a fragment of the information that has appeared in Cambridge newspapers since the 1770s.

Many, many more were transcribed by the late Don Crane and published in a number of *Fulbourn Chronicles* covering the periods 1750-1850, 1851-1900, 1901-1930 and 1931 to 1955 (with headline news to 1980)

These are more comprehensive than the snippets featured in this *Fulbourn Scrapbook*. They can be obtained from the Fulbourn Village History Society - <http://www.fulbournhistory.org.uk/>

1897 03 06

Messrs Grain, Moyes and Wisbey offered for sale by auction two valuable licensed properties situate at Fulbourn and Fen Ditton respectively. There was a large and representative attendance and the bidding was very brisk. The property at Fulbourn consists of the beer-house known as "The Royal Oak" with 4-quarter brewery, malting, club-room etc, a farm homestead with barn and stables, and about two acres of paddock and orchard in the occupation of Messrs Hudson's Cambridge & Pampisford Breweries Company at a year rent of £55. The bidding started at £500 and ultimately reached £1,050 at which price it was disposed of. "The Blue Lion", Fen Ditton was then offered. It contains tap-room, sitting-room and three bedrooms, with a yard at side etc and is let at a rental of £25 per annum. The first bid given was £300, and the price quickly rose until it reached £825, when it was sold. The results of the sales were highly satisfactory to the vendors.

1897 08 02

Messrs Gain, Moyes and Wisbey offered for sale the Shakespeare Brewery, Newmarket-road, Cambridge and 15 freehold licensed inns, public houses and beerhouses. Lots commenced at £500 and rose rapidly - in the case of the Red Bull, Barton Road to £2,050. Other prices included The Shakespeare Brewery and Inn (£2,000), The Greyhound, Lt Wilbraham (£800), The Bakers' Arms, Fulbourn (£950), The Railway Inn, Harlton (£725) and The Cherry Tree beerhouse, Swaffham Fen (£600)

1897 10 05

Fulbourn pub, p2

1897 11 01

Ill-treating lunatic, Fulbourn, p3

1897 11 06

Interview Sam Long, Fulbourn, p3

1899 01 24

One of the largest fires which have occurred in Chippenham broke out on Monday night. It appears that captain Howlett was in the village on fire brigade business connected with the previous fire, when a boy dashed in shouting that the barn at the rear of the Tharp Arms public house was on fire. He lost no time in wiring for as the Newmarket and Fulbourn Fire Brigade. Twenty villagers mounted the roof of a long range of thatched cottages in Church Lane and passed buckets from man to man in order to prevent the flames which were now licking the cottages. By sheer hard work the fire was held in check until the brigade arrived. They pulled down all places or goods in the vicinity which seemed likely to ignite and were able to confine the outbreak to something like reasonable proportions. Without the army of helpers the whole of the village lying to windward of the outbreak would probably have been involved

1899 11 27

Following their manoeuvres at Shelford the London Scottish Rifle Volunteers had a further engagement with the University corps in the vicinity of Caius Farm, near the Gog Magogs. The Scots marched out to occupy the farm and were reinforced at Fulbourn by a company of the Newmarket Suffolk Volunteers. The actual firing operations began at 2.45. The farm having been taken the defending and attacking forces were formed up in line and the march home was begun, the Scottish pipers leading the way.

1901 05 09

The late Mr William Weston was desirous of benefiting the poor of Fulbourn, but died before his plans were complete. His widow is having ten or twelve cottages in good repair conveyed to the rector and churchwardens as trustees for an ecclesiastical charity. It is needless to add that the poor people are most thankful for this kindness.

1902 01 17

The stationmaster at Fulbourn told the court that under the company's rules the Teversham railway gatekeeper had no right to appoint anyone to take charge of the gates. He had to be at the gate all the day, but had a boy relieve him during the dinner hour. On the day of the accident he had been suffering from diarrhoea and went to the Baker's Arms to get something to stop it. He had twopennyworths of whiskey and some ginger wine. He did not return because he was ill and did not feel capable. PC Salmon said he found one of the gates broken; the boy was there with a hand lamp. The jury returned a verdict of guilty with a very strong recommendation to mercy. He was discharged and would not lose his pension.

1902 09 30

Mr Richard Long of the rectory Farm, Fulbourn, invited his harvest men and lads to a horkey. About 20 were present and after an excellent supper the company were amused by songs etc. A midnight vote of thanks was proposed by Mr Sam Long. Mr Richard Twinn also gave his men a horkey at the Six Bells. Supper was served in good style by Mrs Whitmore and afterwards the men were regaled with tobacco and ale.

1903 01 21

Fulbourn patient, p2 & p3

1903 02 03

A Fulbourn wood dealer claimed his horse had been bewitched and conducted an experiment to see who had bewitched it. He took two bottles to the blacksmith's shop and filled them with nails and pieces of hoof from the floor, then bought some pins and needles. At midnight he put water in a saucepan and boiled it with the parings of hoofs, nails, pins and needles in. He sat quite in the dark. At last somebody came to the door but he was so frightened he blundered off upstairs. The magistrates attributed the condition of the horse to starvation rather than the evil eye and imposed a heavy fine. It is almost incredible that such fooleries should be believed, but the bucolic mind evidently lingers in the shadows of a century ago.

1903 02 03

Steps are to be taken all over England to reduce the number of licensed houses, Bottisham magistrates were told. They have one licensed house to every 123 people. The Cow and Calf beerhouse, Swaffham Prior has not applied for a license, as one has been granted to a new house near the railway station & The Harrow, Fulbourn, has been closed. In the last year the landlady of the Crown and Thistle, Fulbourn has been convicted of supplying beer to a drunken person

1903 03 02

P.C. Salmon told the court he had been called to Fulbourn signal box and found the stationmaster and another man in charge of the box with the door locked. The defendant, a signalman, was outside. He was drunk and creating a disturbance. Subsequently he'd gone back to the station, got inside the box and abused the man who had taken his place. The policeman had ejected him but the man remained

very close to the station and was abusive. He had also been ejected from the Railway Tavern and the magistrates were glad the landlord had acted properly. He should always be careful in dealing with railway men

1903 04 29

The University Arms Property, Sawston, consisting of the old licensed beerhouse, the University Arms, 32 cottages and the cricket ground were offered for sale by auction. The pub sold for £775, one block of four cottages facing the main road was sold at £450 and four in Occupation Road realised £250. The cricket ground was purchased by Mr Hudson for £280. The remaining 20 cottages were withdrawn. The fully licensed inn, The King's Head, and the old beerhouse now named the Golden Fleece in Bridge Street were offered and withdrawn as were the Cock and the Bell at Feltwell and The Ferry Boat at Hockwold-cum-Wilton. Six freehold cottages at Fulbourn were sold to Mr Jacobs for £250

1903 12 04

Fulbourn fire, p3

1904 10 13

The first step towards the abolition of Fulbourn Feast from the street was reached at a public meeting. The booths and stalls standing in the road were a great nuisance. The people in the caravans were not of the better class; they were a dirty lot and their sanitary arrangements were very bad. Little bags of filth were left about the street and proved very objectionable. Fulbourn was a respectable and clean village and it was a disgrace they should have such a state of things. No one could abolish the Feast altogether; they could have feasts every day on private premises. What they wanted was to abolish the feast in the street.

1904 10 17

A devastating fire broke out on Charles Parker's farm near the church at Bottisham, in the most thickly populated part of the village. Had there been a strong wind it would be impossible to calculate the extent of the damage for there are 20 cottages close at hand. Police constable Whitwood, who is stationed at Swaffham, noticed a bright reflection in the sky and at once mounted his cycle, losing no time in reaching the scene while PC's Salmon and Driver ran from the direction of Fulbourn. The old manual engine which is stored at the Police Station was requisitioned and proved useful, despite its age. It is dated 1796 and was repaired by the Parish Council in 1897

1904 10 21

Sir – the village feast is a danger to health with the carrying of infection from village to village from the sweets eaten, from the want of cleanliness among the van dwellers and the absence of sanitary appliances. A ‘test your strength’ appliance was erected opposite a house in which a poor woman lies dying. The friends appealed to the owner not to use it because of the constant ear-splitting noise. Did this appeal influence the good feeling of the feastman? Not a bit of it and the noise continued without ceasing the whole evening. Is it right this kind of thing should continue? – F.L. Nicholls, Fulbourn

1904 11 15

A gruesome accident occurred at the railway crossing at Little Thetford. Two men were returning from Fulbourn with the corpse of an Ely native who was by trade a basket maker and had been detained in the asylum. A four-wheel cart, with no lights, collided with their trap which was turned over on to its side. The horse was dragged down with it and the two men hurt. The coffin containing the corpse was left on the road and the trap had to make a second journey to convey the remains to Ely

1906 04 04

According to a Government expert who was sent down to inquire into last year's outbreak of typhoid at Fulbourn there is a ‘potentiality of danger’ that the water supply of Cambridge might become contaminated with the Asylum sewage. Their present system is antiquated - it is irrigated over grass land and may percolate through the soil into the vast subterranean lake beneath from which the Water

Company pumps their supplies. We do not want even the ‘potentially of danger’: the public health is too serious a matter about which to take any risks whatever. 06 04 04

1906 04 24

News that the Cambridge water supply might be polluted by sewage from Fulbourn Asylum has spread alarm and is getting the town into disfavour. More than one anxious father or mother as they read the report in ‘The Times’ will decide “We must send Jack to Oxford” and we fear that the entrance at the University next academic year will suffer considerably. No trace of contamination has been discovered up to present but even the possible risk must be removed. 06 04 24

1906 05 11

Risk to Cambridge water supply of contamination from Fulbourn sewage – 06 05 11

1906 05 17

Fulbourn bells, p3

1906 06 14

Cambridge water supplies might be polluted from sewage from Cherry Hinton and Fulbourn. Householders use pails for the collection of excreta and if this is spread on the land then the possibility of typhoid organisms finding their way into the water supply must be remote. A more serious menace is the soakage of infected matter from improperly-constructed cesspools and the sewage from the Asylum. Some Cambridge people have started to boil their water 06 06 14a & b

1906 09 12

Fulbourn fever, p3

1906 11 12

Cambridgeshire has lost one of its claims to distinction, that of possessing the only Lord Lieutenant who is a Commoner and Nonconformist. Owing to ill-health Mr Alexander Peckover, the philanthropic member of the Society of Friends, of Bank House, Wisbech, has resigned the post he has held for 13 years. He took over on the death of Charles Townley of Fulbourn Manor in 1893 after Prime Minister W.E. Gladstone submitted his name to Queen Victoria 06 11 12a & b & c

1907 03 06

A house amid a clump of trees near Fulbourn station has been the residence for 50 years of the celebrated animal painter, J.F. Herring who has just died. He was the elder son of an earlier J.F. Herring, the leading painter of racehorses and coaching scenes, while a second son, Charles, became famous as a painter of Landeir subjects. He had just one pupil, Mr W.B. Redfern who visited his old master only yesterday. The funeral will take place at Great Wilbraham where there is a family vault. 07 03 06

1908 02 15

Swaffham Prior had nine licenced houses, six full and three beer ‘on’ for a population of 950. The John Bull was in a dilapidated condition, it was next door to the Red Lion which had stables for four horses and had been put into a thorough state of repair. Bottisham have seven pubs; the Rose and Crown was in bad repair but the Swan had six bedrooms and a bakehouse. Cow and Hare, Rock Hotel, Fen Ditton[: Blue Lion, Fulbourn: Royal Oak, Bottisham: Rose and Crown, Swaffham Prior: John Bull, Reach: Uncle Tom’s Cabin, Lt Wilbraham: Hole in the Wall. 08 02 15 & a & b

1908 02 15

Some excitement was caused in Fulbourn by the descent of a large balloon with two aeronauts on board. Coming from the direction of Shelford it passed over the golf course and dropped into a field. The aerial travellers – one an old Trinity Hall man – said they left London at noon with Cambridge as their objective. The balloon was deflated and packed on a cart ready for the return journey per Great Eastern Railway. 08 02 15d

1908 02 19

An inquiry into Cambridge water supplies heard that the bulk of the sewage from the female side of Fulbourn Asylum was disposed of in the Rectory Field and that from the male to the west. This was found to be faulty, very faulty. In 1905 there was a serious outbreak of typhoid fever at Asylum with some 70 cases and 16 deaths after which Dr Copeman investigated. He did not want to be alarmist but an inquiry into possible sewage contamination would reassure the public. 08 02 19 & 20

1908 04 29

Fulbourn Hospital lighting report – 08 04 29

1908 08 21

Members of the Cambridge Women's Suffrage Association, including Mrs Rackham, Mrs Dutt and Mrs Ramsey, visited Whittlesford and Fulbourn canvassing women during the afternoon and arranging an open-air meeting on the green at which the wives bring their husbands. There had been a certain amount of difference of opinion but people have been most friendly and willing to listen.

CWN 08 08 21 p3

1908 10 02

A nurse at Fulbourn Asylum had died from typhoid fever: she was in the habit of drinking the water unboiled and a specimen had been sent to be bacteriologically examined. A scheme for the improvement of the disposal of sewage had been suggested but not yet carried out. The nurses were lunacy trained and not competent to nurse a case of enteric fever. Patients were treated in the Asylum infirmary but the attendants were moved as early as possible to Addenbrooke's Hospital. CWN 08 10 02 & 08 10 02 p5

1908 12 11

Government Inspectors say a large source of Cambridge water should be abandoned as it is dangerous to the lives and health of the inhabitants. It had been suggested that contamination came from Fulbourn Asylum sewage but the experts say the danger comes from the villages of Cherry Hinton and Fulbourn where the method of sewage disposal are at the very least primitive. Even if sewage was excluded from the present leaky sewers it would still be disposed of in cesspools and there is no certainty that these would not leak. CWN 08 12 11

1909 02 12

Fulbourn had 11 licenced houses. The Townley Arms was 270 paces from the Bakers' Arms, 120 from the Mangle beer house and 440 paces from the Asylum Inn. But it was the only free house in the village and had increased its trade. As well as selling beer on the premises the landlord sold ordered beer and stout in the village which he took round with a horse and cart. He was the only licence-holder who supplied beer in gallon jars for a shilling – it cost fourpence more elsewhere. There was a quoits club with about 30 members. The licence was renewed. 09 02 12

1909 07 02

A number of village public houses are no longer economic and should close, magistrates were told. They included the Bell at Meldreth, Melbourn's Old Elm Tree, The Royal Oak Fulbourn, The Lamb and Lord Nelson at Cottenham, British Queen Chesterton, Queen's Head Dry Drayton, Over's Hare and Hounds, Balsham Five Awls and Soham's Fox-in-Wood. But the licensee of the Green Man at Swavesey said he did not want to leave it. CWN 09 07 02

1910 02 25

The high ground near Cherry Hinton was the scene of some interesting military operations. For several hours the Gogs resounded with the crackle of rifle fire and the thunder of artillery as the tide of battle rolled slowly from Reservoir Hill past the Golf Links until arrested at Limepit Hill. The operations supposed that the Great Eastern Railway line was the frontier between two states which

had mobilised their troops. A cavalry brigade at Newmarket was reinforced by some infantry and guns and Fulbourn was fortified. 10 02 25m & n

1910 03 11

The Coach and Horses pub at Fulbourn contained a bar, a parlour, smoke room, living room and five bedrooms upstairs. The yard had stabling for seven horses, a disused brewery, pigsties and a chaff-cutting house. The cellar in the basement was unfit for use and the premises generally in a bad state of repair. Next door was the Six Bells, a large house with extensive premises which could supply all the requirements of the neighbourhood. There are five fully-licensed houses and five beer 'on' licences to cater for 124 inhabitants as well as the 526 inmates of the asylum. 10 03 11b also Soham Black Horse – 10 03 11c

1910 04 29

Congregationalists assembled in large numbers to celebrate the centenary of the church at Fulbourn. Its origins can be traced to 1776 when worship was carried out in a barn. In 1810 they took possession of a small meeting house erected by Thomas Harlock. The Rev. S. Smoothe had been appointed in 1878 making him the longest-serving minister and no church had ever had a more faithful servant 10 04 29d & e

1910 05 20

It would be desirable if a scheme of scavenging could be devised for Cottenham, Willingham and Fulbourn where some of the houses are situate in confined areas. There being no proper sewer, the pail system of closet is largely in use and the contents of the pails are frequently emptied with the house refuse in one corner of the small yards adjoining the houses and frequently cause a nuisance injurious to health 10 05 20a

1910 07 01

Licences for: Bassingbourn Beerhouse in the fen, Meldreth Green Man, Fulbourn Coach & Horses, Chesterton White Horse, Cottenham Boot, Fen Drayton Horse & Gate, Longstanton Red Cow, Milton Three Tuns, , Shelford King William IV, Shudy Camps Chequers, Linton George & Dragon. Cambridge Star & Garter Petty Cury, Cardinal's Cap, Crown & Anchor, Borough Boys, Ship, Merry Boys, Prince Albert, Oxford – all refused. Melbourn White Lion & Swavesey Little Rose renewed 10 07 01 & a

1910 09 09

A painful sensation was caused in the village of Fulbourn when it became known that Mr James Edmund Freeman had passed away. He employed a large number of hands on several farms he owned in Huntingdonshire including one at Hemingford Grey where he resided 18 years. On his retirement was presented with a framed portrait by Dendy Sadler. He then devoted his time to the business of R.B. Webster Ltd, fruit, pea and potato salesmen of Spitalfields Market. He had started as a porter and later purchased the firm. 10 09 09c

1910 12 02

John Crampton came to Sawston nearly 50 years ago where has developed the printing, publishing and mineral water business of Messrs Crampton and Son Ltd. A branch of the mineral water business has also been established at Newmarket. He was one of the promoters of the Eastern Counties Leather and Parchment Company as well as a councillor, Visitor of Fulbourn Asylum and member of the Old Age Pensions Committee. His death has caused a blank in the village life and on every hand expressions of sorrow testify to the regard in which he was held 10 12 02l

1910 12 16

Messrs A.M. Robinson held their Christmas sale as usual at the Cattle Market. Amongst the prize-winners was Mr C. Butler of Swaffham Bulbeck whose five pigs were purchased by J. Prior, butcher of Burleigh Street. There was a fine show of hogs over ten stone which was won by W.A. Payne of Fulbourn with a special prize awarded to E. Gautrey of Cottenham. Mr Backler of Linton won in the

sow class while Miss Camps of Chesterton was best in the cottagers' section, her hog being sold to Eastmans 10 12 16a

1911 08 25

The proposed army manoeuvres have been abandoned due to the drought. This is a disappointment to local tradesmen. The tender of G.P. Hawkins had been accepted for the supply of bread to troops expected at Cambridge, Gt Wilbraham, Babraham, Fulbourn and elsewhere. Bicycles hired for the use of the advance party engaged in constructing telegraphs were returned to Robinson's bicycle showroom. The Royal Engineers encamped near Whittlesford station will take down the telegraph posts and wires already erected. Landlords of village inns have cause to regret the abandonment for the advance party of troops had evidenced a liking for a variation of camp fare. 11 08 25b

1911 12 01

There is no doubt that lunacy is steadily increasing owing to the strenuousness of modern conditions. The asylums were never so full as they are today. We have a higher sense of duty to those bereft of reason than obtained fifty years ago and place under restraint cases that would formerly have been allowed to be at large. Fulbourn Asylum is overcrowded and there is no accommodation for further nurses which is especially important as the female side is understaffed. Unless there is some decrease in the number of patients additional expansion will be necessary 11 12 01c

1912 04 12

The novel sight of log-rolling was recently witnessed on the river at Great Wilbraham. Mr P.C. Brown, having bought some trees from Fulbourn Manor Park, conveyed them down the river from the Park to Great Wilbraham Bridge (quay), where they were landed. 12 04 12h

1912 05 31

The County Council sued Messrs Pepper and Hollis, gravel pit proprietors of Cambridge and Lt Abington for damage caused to the public highway by their heavy traction engines and trucks loaded with gravel. They had hauled 1,000 tons of gravel on the road from Abington to Pampisford, cutting it up. But Linton Council's steam tractor also used it, as did Pamplin's engines, commercial motors from Chaplin of Fulbourn, Christmas of Haverhill and Hudsons from Pampisford. 12 05 31

1912 08 02

Fulbourn barn fire – 12 08 02

1912 10 04

The Medical Superintendent of Fulbourn Asylum had applied for an increase of salary, pointing out the increase in the number of patients. But one of the Visitors claimed this was not due to any increase in lunacy but to the fact that fewer patients had been discharged. He suggested either that the Superintendent was less successful than his predecessor in the treatment of his patients or that he retarded their dismissal to run up the figures in order to justify his salary increased. This is unthinkable. Recently an unusual number of incurable cases have been admitted. Such a disagreeable misunderstanding should not have arisen. 12 10 04c

1913 01 03

Fulbourn asylum extension

1913 04 04

Fulbourn asylum proposed extension

1913 05 09

Suffrage meeting broken up at Soham, Sawston, Fulbourn

1913 06 06

Fulbourn asylum

1913 06 06

Fulbourn Hospital extension

1913 07 04

Fulbourn sleep walker falls in well

Fulbourn asylum overcrowding, women sleep on floor \*

1913 09 12

Fulbourn asylum incident

1913 09 19

Aird & co Cambridge contracts – laying pipes to sewage station on Milton Road and water mains in Cambridge and from Fleam Dyke works to Fulbourn

1913 10 31

Fulbourn Asylum extension deferred, include camera to photo patients; females not know if dead or alive, fed with spoons; feeble-minded should be sent to institutions

1913 11 21

Fire Fulbourn & Histon

1913 11 28

Woman admitted Fulbourn Hospital without husband's consent

1914 01 02

A shocking fatality occurred in the early hours of Christmas morning on the road between Great Wilbraham and Fulbourn. A driver for the Provincial Motor Cab Company overturned the taxicab he was driving and was pinned underneath in his seat, sustaining fatal injuries to his head. The accident occurred about one o'clock in the morning and he lay in the road until found by the Wilbraham mail driver at 6.40. The car was badly knocked about. The offside front wheel was broken completely and thrown several yards up the road. 14 01 02 & a

1914 04 03

Early Birds.—A thrush's nest has been' found in Mr. Sam Long's orchard (Fulbourn), and the young birds flew from the nest on Wednesday last. - 1914 04 03 CIPof

1914 07 02

Fulbourn asylum extension

1914 07 31

Fulbourn asylum extension required

1914 08 07

Several young men from Fulbourn, including Reservists and Territorials left to serve their country. Others were seen making their way from Sawston to Whittlesford station, a great crowd assembled at Willingham station to see their men leave men leave. At Swaffham Prior James Fordham, a labourer, was summoned for leaving his employer without notice. But he was a reservist who had been called up to serve his country and the charge was dropped.

1914 08 28

Patriotic Cambridge has furnished a squadron of Yeomanry and 129 recruits for Lord Kitchener's Second Army. Many firms are making provision for wives and families left behind, supplementing the men's army wages. The University Press has sent 61 men, the Gas Company 35, Eaden Lilley 18 and William Saint the builder 17. (The paper lists the names of the men). Several men have left

Sawston and at Reach Jack Ridgell offered his services but was not accepted, he being just over the age limit of 42 years. But at Linton men were asked not to join up until the harvest has been gathered in. also Fulbourn, Histon, Fen Drayton,

1914 09 04  
Fulbourn hospital enlargement

1914 09 11  
Fulbourn water cart

1914 09 25  
County roads must be improved for military transport. Some need to be widened and corners rounded off with the War Office paying much of the cost. At Coton the road will run through Mr Hunt's stackyard, Grantchester church corner needs taking off; the road at Cherry Hinton needs widening near the Robin Hood with more widening in Fulbourn village. All will be strengthened to carry artillery. The idea is to get the military from the west to east without going through Cambridge.  
Recruitment – Castle Camps, Soham, Fulbourn, Horseheath

1914 10 09  
Military roads - Stretham to Soham, one of four to allow different armies to move from west to east at same time without going through Cambridge. The first from Potton though Harston to Whittlesford and Pampisford and on to London Road near Hildersham. Sinuous road through Grantchester and Trumpington on to Cherry Hinton and Fulbourn and away on the Newmarket Road. Another down Huntingdon Road, across Midsummer Common and along Newmarket Road Huntingdon, Wilburton & Stretham where new road would start. Newmarket RDC to make and improve road from Cam through Wicken. At one point there was a green track where the whole of the road would be constructed. At Wicken there was another piece of road about eight feet wide where flint would need to be pressed in. Through Wicken the road was a good second class decent road.

1914 10 30  
Fulbourn Asylum extension

1914 11 20  
Experiences – Housden of Peterhouse, Traylen, Fulbourn Taylor w., Horlock of St John's Rd -  
Lancers letter \*.  
Belgians – Balsham, Milton, Fulbourn, Burwell

1914 11 27 CIP  
Fulbourn VAD – 25 wounded arrive from EGH & now accommodated in Assembly Room, form VAD detachment to relieve Red Cross nurses at night

1915 08 06  
Photos of fallen soldiers:  
G.D. Salmon, Wisbech; G.C. Coote, Foxton; Capt R.E. Sindall, Cambridge; A.J. Coote, Barrington; L. Tuck; L/C Ryder; B. Rolph; S. Trotman; A.D. McPherson; H.H. Bendall; E.C. Colchester, Shelford; R.N. Bendyshe, Barrington; Capt Tebbutt; Hodson; W.J. Blane; E. Freeman; B. Carter, Bourn; Dunnett; - 15 08 06a. A.E. Seagrott; E.H. Cawthrop; W.F. Taylor, Lt Shelford; W. Gee, Sawston; A. Davis, T. Kimmence; C.L. Wayman; E. Clarke, Bourn; H.C. Yorke, J.H. Caldecoat, Bourn; F.J. Gipp, Chesterton; N.W. Fielding; O.J. Goddard, Dewey; G. Pamplin, Fen Ditton; J. Wallage; Phillips; C. Richmond, Fulbourn; W.E. Jones; J.J. Mayle; L.J. Naylor; S. Phillips; R.L. Player; C. Butler – 15 08 06b

1915 08 13  
Photos of wounded soldiers

T. Hornsby, A.J. Ince; G. Stevens; P. Stubbings, Sawston; W. Maltby; G.W. Naylor; Northfield; P.G. Pope; R. O'Brien; A.R. Skeel; Pull; C. Cockerill, Sawston; T.E. Foreman, Fulbourn; W. Foreman, Fulbourn; Dobson; 15 08 13a. S. Allen; A.R. Sewell; Medway; A.E. Taylor, Chesterton; H.W. Whitmore, Chesterton; J. Clark; R. Silk; S.T. Burr; F.W. Freeman, Sawston; A.S. Kirkup; W. Gladwell; Dean; Dodd; G. Osbourn, Fulbourn; H.B. Stevens; A. Plump, Fulbourn; S. Mott; R. Clifton; H.C. Clark; J.E. Orton; E. Tiplady; C. Dockerill, Sawston; F. Cracknell; A.A. Spillman; C. Walker; A.E. Whybrow; P. Coleman, Sawston 15 08 13b

1915 09 17

Fulbourn VTC formed

1916 01 05

Gale Damage. During the severe gale which passed over the village (Fulbourn) on Monday week the large elm tree against the Red Cross Hospital was blown down. The tree had been standing there for 260 year

1916 01 26

Fulbourn VAD hospital - photo nurses, ward – 16 01 26c

1916 02 02

D.C.M. Awarded. — Signalman James T. Turner has been awarded the D.C.M. He enlisted in the Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve at the outbreak of the war, and received his training at the Crystal Palace and Devonport In June, 1915, he was transferred to the minesweeper St. Elvies. He is the eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Turner, Fulbourn, and is 19 years of age. He is an old scholar of the Cambridge County School for Boys.

1916 03 15 CIP

Mother's Second Loss - A few weeks ago we chronicle the death on the battlefield in Flanders of Pte David Gillson, 2nd Beds, son of Mrs. Gillson, of Fulbourn. The sad intelligence has now been received that another son, Pte Charles Gillson, 2nd Suffolks, has met his death whilst bomb throwing at the Front. Mrs. Gillson has two other sons, one in training and the other included in Lord Derby's group system.

1916 04 05

Cattle Buried Under Debris. At Fulbourn last week, a blizzard played havoc all over Fulbourn. The Manor Walk Wall was demolished by large trees which were uprooted, stopping traffic. About 200 trees were uprooted in the Manor grounds, and also one in Mr. Wright's one at Mr. F. J. Chaplin's, five at Mrs. B. J. Chaplin's, 14 in one field of Mr. Wright's, 21 beautiful fir trees in the grounds of Mr. John Gardiner, and the orchard at the Baker's Arms is completely wrecked, a great loss to Mrs. Giddens, as all were fruit trees. At Mr. H. E. Brown's farm, a shed 84 feet long, with 14 head of cattle, including five new-born calves with the cows, was blown from its foundation, and the whole of the cattle were buried under the debris. The extraordinary thing is that none of them was seriously hurt. After moving all the debris it was found that about 12 fowls were killed. One calf has since died from shock.

1916 05 24

Bad Potatoes. At the Quarterly meeting of the Cambridge Town Council, Ald. P. H. Young drew attention to the remarks of the Commissioners of the Board of Control contained in the annual report of the Fulbourn Asylum Visitors respecting the potatoes served as part of the patients' dinner. The potatoes, it was stated, were cooked in the stew in their "jackets" and no attempt had been made to detect and discard bad ones. Many were absolutely black and uneatable and there was no margin to permit bad ones being replaced by good ones. Still worse, they saw, in one ward a mincing machine, into which unpeeled potatoes, good and bad, were indiscriminately placed and passed through the machine, so that the compound produced and served out was quite unfit for consumption. Ald. Young said he did not think this should be passed over without some explanation. Dr. Dalton said he did not

wish in any way to justify the Visitors in this matter, but the report related to July 5 which was about the worst time of the year for potatoes. The Visitors, as soon as the matter was brought to their notice, had the matter remedied and had taken steps to see that it did not occur again.

1916 06 21

Wounded Arrive. Another heavy convoy of wounded arrived on Saturday night. The train, which steamed in about 8 o'clock, contained 107 cot cases and 93 sitting cases, 200 in all. The work was smartly carried out by Cambs. 13 V.A.D., assisted by members of Fulbourn detachment. The work was supervised by Commandant Percy Alger, and the train was unloaded in an hour and 20 minutes.

1916 08 30 CIP

Death of Major A. J. Pell. The death occurred suddenly on Monday at Tattenham, near Chester, where he was officiating as instructor of musketry, of Major Albert Julian Pell, J.P., of Wilburton Manor. Major Pell had a long record of public service in the County and the Isle of Ely, in which he had resided since 1891. At the time of his death he was holding the office of chairman of the Isle of Ely Quarter Sessions, vice-chairman of the County Council of the Isle of Ely, chairman of the Fulbourn Asylum Visitors, chairman of the Haddenham Level Commissioners, chair of the Grunty Fen Drainage Committee, chairman of the General Committee of the Governors of Addenbrooke's Hospital, vice-chairman of the Territorial Force Association, a Deputy Lieutenant of the County and Lord of the Manor of Wilburton. He was High Sheriff in 1909. He was called to the Bar of Lincoln's Inn in 1890.

1917 02 07

Dorothy Nicholls of Fulbourn – nurse on Russian front; description of journey – 17 02 07a

1917 02 21

Col. A. J. V. Durrell - Congratulations are due to the Rev, J. V. Durrell and Mrs. Durrell, of Fulbourn, on the recent honour conferred upon their second son, Col. Arthur J. V. Durrell. Chief Paymaster at the War Office, Whitehall, who has been appointed u Commander of the Bath.

1917 07 25

A Warning. A Fulbourn correspondent writes: Will those persons who have been robbing the allotments and school gardens of their produce stop their little game at once, or proceedings will be taken-against them. They are well known.

1917 10 03

Gold amongst the potatoes. Mr. William Anderson, of Teversham Road, Fulbourn, was digging up some potatoes in his garden when he found, amongst one good root a golden sovereign. Anderson has had several orders for seed potatoes from that root, for next year.

1917 11 14

Diamond Wedding. Mr. and Mrs. Abraham Banyard, a worthy old couple of Vine Cottage, Home End, Fulbourn, celebrated their diamond wedding on October 31.

1918 02 20

Fulbourn Nurse Honoured. Nurse Dorothy Nicholls, daughter of Dr and Mrs. Nicholls, of Fulbourn, has been awarded the 1914 Bronze Star by the Red Cross Society, which has been forwarded with notice from the War Office. Nurse Nicholls has been in France for six months. Previous to that she was for 18 months on the Russian Front, and has had some wonderful experiences and marvellous escapes.

1918 05 08

Fulbourn Nurse Honoured. Hearty congratulations to Sister Whitmore of nearly four years' splendid work at the V.A.D. Hospital, Fulbourn. On Saturday she was received by the King at Buckingham Palace and was presented with a silver medal. At Marlborough House she was presented with a Lovel

Certificate and a book entitled, "The Way of the Red Cross," by Queen Alexandra. The nurses and patients of the Red Cross Hospital, Fulbourn met the sister on her return journey and gave her a cordial reception

1918 05 22

First Institution for 50 Years. The institution of the Rev. Theodore Harber Hennessy as Rector of Fulbourn by the Bishop of Ely, which took place on the 13th inst, was witnessed by an unusually large congregation. The Bishop, in his address, said it was certainly 50 years since there had been an institution of a rector in the parish of Fulbourn, and probably it was the case that no rector had been publicly instituted in the church at least for many centuries. Therefore that must needs be a landmark in the history of the parish. 18 05 22c

1918 06 26

New Superintendent. The newly-appointed Superintendent of the Cambridgeshire Mental Hospital, Fulbourn, Captain Mervyn A. Archdale, R.A.M.C. (T.F.R.), is the eldest son of the Rev. Canon, T. Hewan Archdale, Vicar of Tanfield and Rural Dean of Chester-le-Street. He has had 21 years' experience, holding appointments in general hospitals for three years and in asylums for 18 years. He was at one time an Assistant Medical Officer at the Lancashire County Asylum at Rainhill, and for nearly 12 years has held the appointment of Medical Superintendent of the East Riding of Yorkshire Asylum at Beverley. He has served 26 months in the Army during the present war, including 18 months in France. .

1918 07 31

Successful fete. — A garden fete held on Thursday afternoon and evening at the Manor, Fulbourn, the residence of the Rev. C. F. and Mrs. Townley, in aid of the War Agricultural Relief Fund, the Prisoners of War Fund and the Red Cross Hospital, proved a great success, some £80 being raised. One item on the programme was a pageant given by a number of children, picturesquely bedecked with coloured flowers.

1918 08 14

Married more than 60 years. Much sympathy is felt for Mr. Abraham Banyard and family, of Fulbourn, in the sudden death of Mrs Banyard who passed away on Tuesday week. Mrs. Banyard was at church on the previous Sunday. Mr. and Mrs. Banyard celebrated their diamond wedding on October 31, 1917. The funeral took place at St. Vigor's Church, Fulbourn, on Saturday.

1919 01 08

Influenza at Fulbourn Hospital. At the monthly meeting of the Visitors in Fulbourn Hospital it was reported that there had been a considerable epidemic of influenza on the premises. It began among the nurses on the female side, and spread to the women patients. Prompt measures were taken, and it was almost entirely confined to two wards. During the last two weeks the male side had become infected, and nearly all the cases were from two wards. The numbers affected were: Female side: Staff 20, patients 34 Male side: Staff 4, patients 27. A doctor said they had the situation well in hand. There had been three deaths from the malady on the female side.

1919 02 12

Widow of Former Lord Lieutenant.—The death took place rather suddenly at her residence, St. Mary's Court, Ely, on Tuesday last at the ripe old age of 89 years of Mrs. C. W. Townley, widow of Mr. Charles Watson Townley, M.A. for nearly 20 years Lord Lieutenant, and Custos Rotulorum of Cambridgeshire. Mrs. Townley resided with her husband at Fulbourn Manor till his death in 1893, and remained there for several years afterwards, but she has spent the last ten years of her life at Ely. We understand that she was out and about right up to within a few days of her decease, and only on the previous Sunday was present at divine service at Ely Cathedral.

1919 06 04

Fulbourn's Empire pageant – photos – 19 06 04c

1919 06 11

Fulbourn fighting men and their wives and mothers – photo – 19 06 11a

1919 11 17

Discovery at Fulbourn. An interesting discovery was recently made at the house of Mr. Webb, newsagent of Fulbourn. While rebuilding the interior of the front room chimney, which, had partially collapsed, the workmen came across a number of letters, discoloured with age, lying in a crevice of the brickwork. About half a dozen of the missives are quite legible, and two of these bear the dates July 11841 and April 5, 1851. Another is dated "June 3 1050", but as it is written by a child to her grandmother, it is thought that probably that the child made a mistake of about eight centuries in the date. There is also a collection of recipes, and a window bill advertising a coming auction sale of household furniture upwards of 100 bushels of coals, baker's cart and tilt, three useful cart horses, etc., by Elliot Smith, at the Coach and Horses, public house, Fulbourn, on Friday, November 25, 1814. The finding of the papers has aroused considerable interest in the village.

1920 04 07

Civilian Honours,—A long list Of civilian war honours was issued on Tuesday night, and many Cambridge and district names figure in the promotions in, and appointment to the Civil Division of the Order of the British Empire. One of the best known is that of the Master of Christ's (Dr. A. E. Shipley), who becomes a Knight Grand Cross. In all there are nearly 5.000 names including three Dames Grand Cross. 15 Knights Grand Cross, 14 Dames Commanders. 103 Knights-Commanders, 630 CBE., 1,660 O.B.E. and 2,600 M.B.E. Among the names of local Interest are the following: Knights Grand Cross (G.B.E.: Dennison-Pender. Sir John. K.C.MG. Managing Director of Eastern Telegraph Company; Shipley, Arthur Everett, Esq., F.R.S., LL.D.. D.S.c. Vice Chancellor of Cambridge University. Commanders (C.B.E.): Durell, Colonel Arthur James Vaysisor. C.B. Honorary Treasurer. Soldiers' and Sailors' Families Association; Durell, the Rev. John Carlyon Vavasor, Church Army Chief Commissioner. France. Belgium and Germany. The above are sons of the Rev. J. V. Durell for 50 years Rector of Fulbourn): Konstam, Mr. Edwin Max, O.B.E. K.C., Director of Land Drainage Branch. Board of Agriculture and Fisheries; Raikes. Mr. Henry St. John Digby. D.L.. J.P.. Chairman, Derbyshire County War Savings Committee; Townley the Rev. Charles Francis. County Director, Auxiliary Hospitals and V.A.D.'s. Cambridgeshire.

1920 05 12

Steeplechase Cups Stolen,—During Sunday night three houses on the London to Newmarket Road, in the neighbourhood of Fulbourn and Wilbraham, were broken into and thefts of a more or less extensive character perpetrated. In the first instance a house known as Worsted Lodge was entered via a window after forcing back the catch, and two old watches were stolen. All the doors of the various rooms in the house were locked, so that the thief only gained access to the first room. During the same night the house on Shardelowes Farm, Fulbourn was entered in a similar manner. The only thing taken, however, was a locked cash-box containing papers, and it is somewhat significant that a number of plated articles were left untouched. In the third case the house of Mr. George Long, of Wilbraham, received attention and here the nocturnal marauder or marauders made a more substantial "haul," a number of silver steeplechase cups, silver spoons, rose bowls, and other household silver being carried off. Here, again, plated articles were ignored. The three houses are all within a radius of three miles, and each stands in an isolated position. The County Police authorities have the matter under investigation.

1920 05 20

Fulbourn war memorial unveiled – photos – 20 05 12b

1921 03 16

Fulbourn church bells dedicated – 21 03 16g

1922 11 07

The President of Cambridge Trades Council and Labour Party said they were extremely disappointed that Mrs Rackham was knocked out (at the council election). She had done more than any other lady for the working classes in Cambridge. No sooner was she off the Fulbourn Asylum Board of Visitors than whisky for the Visitors at their lunch was brought back. Mrs Rackham had been successful in getting the whisky knocked off, and had been fighting to get the inmates provided with butter instead of margarine and whole milk instead of skimmed milk

1922 12 05

A patient in Fulbourn Asylum escaped from the institution on Sunday and this afternoon was still at large. The "Mystery Man" - who refuses to speak – was sitting in the airing court, apparently in a peaceful and contented state of mind. Suddenly he threw off his coat and waistcoat and made a dash for the railings. Jumping on to a rabbit hutch he scaled the railings in true acrobatic style and made across fields. Here he discarded his lower garments and continued his flight clad only in his shirt. A short time later he was seen running across fields tearing his last remaining garment off as he went and was last seen entering the woods near the Gogs

1923 11 27

The accommodation on the women's side at Fulbourn hospital is now strained to its utmost limit. The chairman said they had 71 more women on their books than they could accommodate and they dealt with the problem by sending 20 patients to Worcester. If they sent the other 50 to another hospital they would find they were sending out some of their best workers and they would have to have a larger staff to do the work of these 50. Dr Reardon said they could not recommend reconstructing the male part of the asylum and use it for females

1924 01 15

At Bottisham police court a woman was charged with stealing four pairs of woollen stockings, two flannel vests and one shawl to the value of £1 the property of the Mental Hospital Fulbourn. She went in the shop of Messrs Morley & Co and offered two flannel vests and a shawl for pawn. The assistant noticed there were two pieces torn out of the vest. The mental Superintendent said it had a pink mark under a seam with some wool stitched over it. She was bound over in the sum of £10. [CDN 15th January 1924]

1924 01 13c

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1924 04 22c

Six standpipes had been supplied to Fulbourn, when there were 12 houses with their own water supply. These houses had since been sold by the Charity owning them and had passed into different hands. The owner of the house to which one particular pipe was attached objected to it being used by others, and the only course to adopt was to ask the Cambridge Water Company to install a standpipe at the cost of £6 per year. Mr Jackson said there was a pipe within 150 yards of the area concerned, and he could not see why this additional pipe should be a charge on the parish. Other people had to come much further than that

1924 10 29c

At Fulbourn a considerable increase in the number of early voters was reported. Capt Briscoe's colours and motors were well in evidence. At Balsham a cluster of children displayed scraps of red ribbons and shouted, "Vote for Garratt". A tramp was seen addressing a road sweeper near Abington and urging, with all the persuasion of his kind, the necessity for England to return a Labour government. In the course of his oratorical effort the 'gentleman of the road' beat the air with a bag

containing his worldly possessions. Shelford and Stapleford as usual made a great show of the pink and white but near the centre of the village a red flag was conspicuously displayed by the roadside – on a tar burner

1925 02 01

Fulbourn Hospital medical superintendent reported that at various times concerts were given to the patients, but they seemed to like cinema performances more than anything, and he was looking forward to the time when they had a cinema there. He was told that the hospital was ideally situated for a wireless installation. Diet was satisfactory and the farm supplied all the milk required, also fresh vegetables and pork.

1927 08 05

Fulbourn Hospital Visitors agreed that the farm was no longer large enough and more land was required for production of milk. At present 27 acres of land was hired at a fairly high rental. The price of the Cauldle Corner Farm was excessive but there were very excellent buildings and it practically adjoined hospital property. If they enlarged it was only fair to the inmates that they should have proper work to do and they should have a farm in which they could take interest.

1927 12 27

The Ortona motor buses had a terrible time in the blizzard. Two buses were stuck in snowdrifts out Newmarket way, one near Teversham corner, a Willingham bus on the Huntingdon Road near the Five Bells, a Caxton bus near Toft and a Saffron Walden bus near Whittlesford station, where they remained many hours. Another bus got nearly to Sawston before it got stuck and had to be dug out and the Fulbourn bus could only get as far as the Robin Hood, Cherry Hinton. Relief gangs were sent to the rescue of the stranded vehicles and they were being dug out and coming home one by one.

1929 03 27

Some interesting observations on windmills were made by Mr H.C. Hughes to the Cambridge Photographic Club. His talk was illustrated by large number of slides. The oldest drawing of a mill in existence was in Longstanton church, cut in the clunch of the porch. Doubtless as the miller was always a bad man his boy took after him and having been turned out of church had spent the time drawing his father's mill on the church. He spoke of the mill at Haverhill with its rotary vanes, the six-sailed mill at Wisbech and the mills at Stretham and Fulbourn, both of which were still working. The latter should be preserved if any should, so beautiful was it on the long rolling slopes behind the Roman road.

1930 07 28

County councillors should contribute towards water supply in the Linton district because since the new Cambridge water scheme at Fulbourn came about a lot of the village wells had run dry. Coun. Frost said: "I would not mind paying for a motor charabanc to take them out to West Wrating and let them have a cup of tea out of the pond – but I very much doubt that I should bring them back alive". But this would be the thin end of the wedge and umpteen other applications would come in from other villages. 30 07 28a-c

1931 02 13

The Robin Hood at Cherry Hinton was the only licensed house on the main Cambridge-Fulbourn Road but only had a beer licence. The brewery had spent a good deal of money improving the amenities and the introduction of motor buses and charabancs had made a great difference in trade. During the summer people came in almost every day for teas and meals like bread and cheese. It was much used by walkers including ladies who asked for port. 31 02 13e-f

1931 10 30

A serious fire broke out, involving the greater part of a large stackyard at Fulbourn and also threatening the school. It was noticed while the children were at play. Every window on that side of the school was cracked and broken by the intense heat which also caused the trees in the yard to flare.

The Village Institute was also threatened. Numerous volunteers assisted firemen but soon the stacks were reduced to heaps of flaring debris. 31 10 30

1933 01 10

Captain and Mrs Townley were presented with a handsome silver salver subscribed for by practically the whole of Fulbourn in honour of their recent wedding. They hoped the couple would see their way to come and take up residence in the village for good and carry on the tradition of the Captain's honoured father. In reply he said he was trying to save enough to come back to the Manor again but it was not a small place and required a considerable amount to keep it up. 33 01 10

1933 02 28

The Medical Superintendent reported a rather severe epidemic of influenza at Fulbourn Mental Hospital involving a large number of inmates and staff. The epidemic spread to the female side and 105 patients were affected, 30 dying. None of the staff died. The epidemic lasted nearly a month. The Visitors expressed their appreciation to the staff for the extra and hard work during a very trying time. 33 02 28b

1934 09 15

Work is in progress on the concrete approach road to Cambridge Water Company's new Softening Station on the Fulbourn Road. When it is finished consumers will get water having less than half the hardness of the present supply. 'Fur' and 'scale' in kettles will be greatly reduced and it will lather more easily with the almost complete absence of the unsightly curd which now forms. 34 09 15

1934 11 24

"This is the first time in history that a water company has of its own free will undertaken the softening of its supply", the Chairman of the Cambridge Waterworks Company said at the laying the foundation stone of its new water-softening station on Fulbourn Road. Cambridge water is abundant and pure but being drawn from a chalk formation is of necessity hard in quality. A considerable number of private water-softening plants have been installed but these will soon not be worth their salt and people should ignore the blandishment of salesmen. 34 11 24b

1935 02 11

One of the most remarkable re-unions on record has been enacted in a tiny cottage at Home End, Fulbourn when a man who had been reported 'missing' after the Armistice came face to face with his wife who had long thought him dead. They were married at Burrough Green in 1900 and he enlisted in the Army Ordnance Corps before being posted to India. Still suffering from loss of memory, he is unable to give an account of his movements since the war. It was a great shock for his wife when he stood on the doorstep as she had believed him dead for about 17 years. Now she has notified the Post Office regarding the widow's pension she has been receiving. 35 02 11; his name: William Edwards

1935 05 18

Cambridge Drawing Society exhibition includes many local views including 'Peas Hill' by Dorothy E. Bradford, 'Pembroke College' by Joyce Shillington Scales and Fenners by Mary Fyson. Fulbourn Mill has provided R.C. Lambeth with a subject. His detailed painting of the interior of the mill and its machinery will interest all with a mechanical turn of mind. Madame Raverat has some beautiful woodcuts including an unusually large cut of St John's Old Bridge printed from three wood blocks. 35 05 18

1935 06 07

It will cost less to wash in Cambridge from now on, thanks to the Cambridge University and Town Waterworks Company's new water-softening station at Cherry Hinton whose plant was designed by Messrs Roby of London. They were a public utility company which while it had a duty to their shareholders, also had a duty to the public. So when in 1934 the Company had at long last freed itself from the heavy financial drain incurred by the obsolescence of the old Fulbourn pumping station,

much consideration was given to the problem of how subsequent revenue surplus could be handed back to its customers. 35 06 07 & a

1935 08 23

Many years ago Madingley windmill was as famous a landmark as those at Bourn or Fulbourn. But in 1909 a great gale blew the mill down and the oak timbers were so badly smashed as to make restoration impossible. Now the Squire of Madingley has purchased an old post-mill at Ellington. There are four sails and the timbers are in an excellent state of preservation. Workmen are engaged in the delicate task of dismantling the mill and foundations are now being dug for it to be erected on the old site at Madingley Hill. 35 08 23

1936 01 21

The news of the death of our beloved King came to the people of Cambridge by means of the wireless. The late afternoon bulletins prepared listeners for the worst and a solemn vigil began. In hundreds of homes families sat by the fireside waiting anxiously for the quarter-hourly bulletins which were given by the BBC. It was if the whole nation were waiting at the King's bedside. At the Dorothy Café, where the Fulbourn Mental Hospital Staff dance was in progress, the news of the King's death was learned at half-past-twelve. At once the dance was terminated. 36 01 21

1937 01 26

Fulbourn Hospital is to have a cinema projector following a demonstration of both a 16mm and 35 mm machine. The smaller one was noisy and while it would project for ordinary purposes it would need to be in the same room as the patients. The projectors were of a delicate nature and if they got men of the labouring class moving it about they would get a lot of damage. The larger one was superior, it was compact, easy to work and the pictures were clear and good-sized. Mr Stubbs said: "The sound was clear and even with a Yankee voice was tolerable – and sometimes they are not" (Laughter). 37 01 26a

1937 09 11

Alexander Paul MacAlister was articled to Messrs Fawcett's, a Cambridge firm of architects, before starting on his own in St Andrew's Street 45 years ago. He designed the new block at Fulbourn Mental Hospital and the Tubercular Hospital at Antwerp as well as many houses in Madingley Road. He founded the Cambridge Amateur Operatic Society and played parts in all the Gilbert and Sullivan operas. 37 02 01 Thompson's houses sell because they are quality built, using only the best materials and stand on good sites. The 'Windsor Estate' is being rapidly completed with houses for sale from £585 to £850 (£32,500 - £45,200 today). It is in a very healthy position on one of the highest points and served by two main bus routes. The 'Thornton Estate' houses cost from £800 to £1,500 (about £83,340). Each is freehold and the price includes roads and paths, fencing, decoration and large gardens. Ralph Thompson Ltd, Fulbourn – Advert 37 09 11a

1937 10 23

Cambridge University and Town Waterworks Company's new workshops and depots in Rustat Road would lead to improved service, enhanced efficiency and – sooner or later – reduced charges. The old premises in Bene't Street had been a veritable shambles and disgrace with pipes stored at the disused Cherry Hinton and Fulbourn pumping stations. They would wage ceaseless war against waste by leakage and had a gang of plumbers ready to deal with any emergency 24 hours a day with the promptitude of the London Fire Brigade. 37 10 23b

1938 04 25

Electricity would be supplied to Wicken, Hardwick, Barrington, Orwell and possibly Teversham this year. But the Beds, Cambs and Hunts Electricity Company had to abandon a scheme at Fulbourn because of restriction on the overhead line. Telegraph poles had been passing through villages for many years carrying hundreds of wires without undue problems, but as soon as they come along with an overhead line, exception is taken to that. No one liked to spoil nature but it cost double the price to

run cables underground bringing the cost per house up from £2 to £5. Six years ago there were 4,615 consumers, now it was 13,145; the number of electric cookers had risen from 526 to 2,039 38 04 25c

1939 05 01

It is unlikely that the Water Company's source of supply, the Fream Dyke pumping station, would be chosen as a target by enemy bombers, but even if it were it is less likely that a direct hit capable of putting both duplicate sets of machinery out of action would be registered. However the disused Fulbourn pumping station has been completely reconditioned as a precaution. But if Cambridge was raided it is almost inevitable that water mains would sustain considerable damage the Manager said. The Company supplied water to 81,000 people but this may well be increased to over 110,000 by evacuations from London, 39 05 01 & a

1939 06 08

Two cottages in Town End Fulbourn were completely destroyed by a fire caused by the intense heat acting on the thatched roof. They are owned by Bishops Charity and occupied by Mrs Brand and Mr & Mrs Osbourne, their three young children, a grown-up son and Mrs Osbourne's mother who celebrated her 76th birthday. Neighbours helped sort out the household articles and clothes rescued from the fire but the beds, heavy furniture and bedding was badly damaged. "It might have been much worse" was Mrs Osbourne's comment. 39 06 08 & b

1939 07 22

Waterworks new service reservoir is most up-to-date in country; Fulbourn pumping station brought back into use as ARP standby; history – 39 07 22

1941 03 07

Soldiers in Fatality. Two members of the Northants Yeomanry lost their lives as the result of an accident near Fulbourn Mental Hospital on Wednesday evening. They were in an Army truck which hit the grass verge after swerving to avoid two approaching cyclists.

1942 07 10

Became Lord Mayor of London, —Sir William Phene Neal, a former Lord Mayor of London, died in London on Tuesday at the age of 81. For some years he lived at Cherry Hinton Hall, and from March, 1919 to March, 1922, he represented the old Fulbourn electoral division on the Cambridgeshire County Council. A solicitor by profession, he was elected Member of Ward of Broad Street for the Corporation of the City of London in 1893. He was Senior Sheriff of the City of London 1929-39, and was elected Lord Mayor of London the following year. He received his knighthood in 1931.

1942 07 31

Death of Dr. F. L. Nicholls. The news of the death of Dr. Frederick Lucius Nicholls, O.B.E., on Thursday of last week, came as a great shock to the village of Fulbourn and to a wide circle of friends, colleagues and admirers in the county and still further afield. For nearly 55 years Dr. Nicholls had practised in Fulbourn and the neighbouring villages, and his skill, kindness and ever-present sense of public duty endeared him to all with whom he came into contact. Some of the older residents will remember him many years ago, when he was to be seen on horseback visiting his patients, and will have seen him riding up to the doors, and, whilst still in the saddle, knock with his riding whip, and often prescribe by the road-side. Now that he has passed on, his generosity of heart can be recorded with gratitude, for many families have benefited by his care and attention, but never received a bill for his professional service. He refused to be enrolled as panel practitioner, preferring to retain the old family doctor tradition, but he was always ready respond to all appeals for his services. During the last war successfully conducted a hospital in the village without any remuneration, and for which he received the O.B.E. in the post-war honours list. During these years of national difficulty he made it a rule never to make any charge for professional services to any members of servicemen's families

1942 12 18

Death of Mr. Mrs Towley. The death took place on Saturday of Mr. Maximilian Gowran Townley at Aviemore, Inverness-shire, in his 79th year. He was the fifth son of the late Charles Watson Townley, of Fulbourn Manor. Mr. Townley had a fine record of public service in the district, and will be best remembered for his work on the Ouse Catchment Board, on which he served for 21 years, resigning in July of last year. He was the nominee of the Minister of Agriculture. He was a former chairman of the old Ouse Drainage Board. From 1918 to 1922 Mr. Townley was Conservative M.P. for Mid-Beds, and in the following year he contested the Isle of Ely, being narrowly defeated by Mr. H.L. Mond, now Lord Melchett. The figures were H. L. Mond 11,467; M. C. Townley 11,069. Latterly Mr. Townley had lived at Aviemore.

1945 01 13

Woman drives Cambridge bus – Mrs Atkinson from Fulbourn – 45 01 13

1947 06 26

Plans for providing Airey houses at a number of villages in the Chesterton R.D.C. area in lieu of permanent brick houses are being prepared. The Ministry of Health have ruled that during the next 18 months, rural authorities must erect one Airey house per three houses constructed. The architect is preparing revised lay-out plans for the sites at Fulbourn, Teversham, Longstanton and Elsworth. A lay-out plan for Coton, providing for a total of 54 houses was approved. Housing progress up to May 29th 1947 reveals 77 houses completed (includes 31 prefabs, 4 bungalows and 5 Swedish), 136 permanent houses and 19 temporary houses in course of erection

1947 07 17

Cambridge has not yet produced any reports of flying saucers, but yesterday there occurred the perfectly genuine episode of The Flying Hay. The phenomenon was seen by Mr Philip Porteous, engineer and manager of the Cambridge Waterworks Co as he was standing in his garden at Fulbourn early yesterday afternoon. "I was looking at a field with hay lying in it, when suddenly large quantities of the stuff rose straight up into the air for some five hundred to a thousand feet and then floated off in a westerly direction", he told a C.D.N. reporter. "What had happened was that a small whirlwind had struck the field. I did not feel the effects myself, but I saw it give a tree quite a shaking"

1947 07 24

Seven members of the Cambridge National Fire Service were at Addenbrooke's Hospital this morning suffering from slight burns from mustard gas sustained in dealing with a fire involving a truck-load of 60 112lb American gas bombs on the railway line between Six Mile Bottom and Fulbourn late last night. The main line between Cambridge and Ipswich was closed to traffic as a result of contamination over 100 yards. Later the damaged wagon was tipped off the rails to the side of the line. The truck was one of a train of 30 to 40 carrying mustard gas bombs from Warren Wood, near Thetford, to Barry in Wales, for dumping in the sea. As it passed through Six Mile Bottom the stationmaster saw that the truck was ablaze. The burning wagon, the third from the engine, was uncoupled, and the engine restarted to pull it away from these. An eye witness said to a "Cambridge Daily News" reporter: "It was a spectacular sight. About fifty per cent of the bombs exploded with a "whoosh" and a burst of flame which shot fifty feet into the air. Poisonous fumes spread over a range of fifty or sixty yards. The police afterwards sealed off an area around the blaze to await decontamination"

1947 08 11

A change in command in the National Fire Service in Cambridge and district had just taken place. Divisional Officer J.W. Gibson of Arbury Road, Cambridge has left to take up an appointment in Scotland. In Cambridge two of the outstanding fires he attended were those at Heffer's and Corpus Christi College. But the fire he will remember most vividly is the last he went to - that on the railway line between Fulbourn and Six Mile Bottom recently when a truck load of mustard gas bombs caught fire

1947 11 13

There is a need for part-time nurses in Cambridgeshire and a campaign to recruit them is to be launched. Fulbourn was described as being "in a dangerous position" and one of the main difficulties mentioned by the Matrons of hospitals in the area was getting people for night and weekend work. Asked for their views Mrs Ditchburn said: "We at the County Hospital are very fortunate. We are well staffed and have our full complement". Mrs Mace explaining the position at Chesterton said approximately a third of the present staff was part time, which meant the night, weekend and early morning duties fell to the permanent staff. Mrs Bradley said that Linton was only one short of the full complement. At Fulbourn they had 32 permanent and 27 part time nurses to look after 528 patients

1949 01 24

Miss D.G. Nicholls made a spirited protest at the decision to refuse permission to develop a site off Fulbourn Old Drift for staff cottages for the Cambridgeshire Mental Hospital. She said the site had been chosen because it was within easy reach in case emergency. Staffing difficulties at the Hospital were "almost impossible" because of housing. Members of the staff were resigning because they could no longer live away from their wives and some were still having to sleep in rooms off wards of noisy, demented patients.

1949 04 08

Concern at the inadequacy of the medical service afforded to the people of Fulbourn village was expressed at Cambridge Trades Council's meeting. A member said when a doctor was acquired, by paying, from Cambridge, he was there with alacrity. "If you can pay then you will get your doctor straight away". If the residents of Fulbourn could get a minimum number of patients required by a doctor – about 2,000 – and a list of signatures to send to the Local Executive Committee they were forced to try and provide the village with a doctor.

1949 05 03

The Drummer Street bus station is a topic always sure of a lively discussion at Women's Institute meetings. At the annual meeting of the Cambridgeshire Federation the present provisions were condemned in no uncertain terms. A Fulbourn member thought it would be a waste to spend more money on the existing system, which was all wrong. Advocating the use of New Square she spoke of the danger to children running across the road after school to catch buses. "There will be a fatal accident there before long, then perhaps something will be done", she said

1950 04 12

Mr J. Hyden, who until recently was a station officer in the Cambridge fire brigade has given up the job of quenching fires to take on one of quenching thirsts. He is now the landlord of the Durham Ox in Mill Road, Cambridge. The reason for the change is that since he was burnt nearly three years ago by mustard gas when helping to put out a fire near Fulbourn on a train carrying cylinders, he has suffered from skin trouble when exposed to heat.

1951 05 29

A picture taken from HMS Belfast while on patrol off the Korean coast gives some idea of the conditions in which the Royal Navy has been operating. It comes from two Cambridgeshire lads who are serving aboard this, the flagship of the British Far Eastern Naval Unit. Norman Peters from Cambridge and John Vickery of Fulbourn are both only 17 years old and are Seamen Boys. When in action they are on four-inch anti-aircraft guns.

1951 06 11

The Cambridgeshire of the future will have a number of new roads, fire & police stations, sewerage schemes, old peoples' homes, a new children's home and a mental deficiency colony. Planners say villages recommended for enlargement include Milton, Fulbourn, Shelford, Barton and Coton where the population will increase from 400 to 1,840. Road improvements recommended include a bypass to the east of Girton relinking the road interrupted by the RAF station but Cambridge bypasses are not shown as surveys show there is no immediate need for them.

1952 01 01

An 88-year-old woman who had been a patient at Fulbourn Hospital for 52 years collapsed on the floor of one of the wards. As a result she sustained a fracture and died from pneumonia. The sister said she had known the lady for the past ten years and had never known her to have any relatives call and see her. There were strict orders that no polish should be put on the floors. Instead the boards were scrubbed and there were very few rugs. The Coroner said: "This is one of those things which sometimes happen to old people and cannot be avoided. I think the fact that this old lady had been a patient for 52 years showed at any rate that she must have been treated with a great deal of care and attention to have reached this very old age of 88".

1952 03 08

Fulbourn Hospital is to make economies in the diets for patients and staff. Halibut or plaice for staff meals is to be discontinued with cod supplied in lieu and the quantity reduced from 5 oz to 4 oz per head per meal. Lunch (bread and luncheon meat, coffee or cocoa) at present supplied to all working patients will be replaced by bread and jam & dripping, when available, will be issued in lieu of jam for lunch. It meant eating food that was not so pleasant, but the nutritional values would be almost the same.

1952 03 27

When Chesterton RDC acquired land to erect 2,000 council houses in "necklace villages" in order to accommodate the "over-spilled" population of Cambridge they should obtain sufficient land to allow for private building as well, said a councillor. Council houses were subsidised to the extent of £35 12s. and building private houses would ease the financial burden. The sewerage of the parishes of Milton and Great and Little Shelford was already in and they should be the first villages to be developed. Fulbourn, Stapleford, Harston, Barton and Coton were also on the priority list.

1952 07 19

The nursing staff position on the female side at Fulbourn Hospital remains serious. It has the valuable services of 41 part-time nurses but owing to their domestic commitments it is often difficult to get enough at peak periods such as weekends when the burden of nursing is borne by the depleted full-time nursing staff who number 26 instead of 80. A total of 1,426 patients were treated during the year and there were 925 in the Hospital on December 31st 1951

1953 01 05

About 100 Fulbourn children are victims of a measles epidemic, which has swept through the village. Miss A. Featherstone, a district nurse, said the first outbreak occurred on December 9th and since then she has had batches of under 11's suffering from the disease. Because of the outbreak few Fulbourn children have enjoyed the fun of a Christmas party; there were so many of them in bed. One villager said: "The children have been going down with it like ninepins". But an official of the County Medical Department said: "A measles epidemic? No, I've heard nothing. It must be a rumour"

1953 04 22

With the advent of nationalisation it was found there were 157 villages without electricity in the Cambridgeshire area and now some 71 have been supplied. Work will soon commence on an extension of the 132,000-volt grid supply from Little Barford to Fulbourn. In addition to village development, electricity has been taken to 1,340 farms and isolated premises.

1953 09 19

Fulbourn Hospital Management Committee were concerned with rising costs; whereas the hospital used to buy the rations, they must now buy only what was needed. But the patients are not overfed and do not have a great variety. They must remember they had people shut up on there. Whilst the cost of provisions supplied to patients had increased considerably, the cost of provisions to the staff had decreased. The main reason for the over-spend was the increased consumption of meat.

1953 11 23

Plans for the development of Fulbourn to provide accommodation for an overspill population of up to 4,000 have caused strong opposition from the parish council. But a sewerage scheme had been installed it should be used to capacity rather than to provide for a small number of persons in other parishes, necessitating additional expenditure on development works. However the sewage scheme was planned for a maximum of 2,500 people and now was to take sewage from Teversham as well; how can this be carried out? The only sensible thing if to postpone the decision.

1954 02 22

Reception of voluntary female patients at Fulbourn Hospital is presenting difficulties owing to a large number of non-voluntary patients. It is unfortunate that people wishing to enter the hospital for treatment have to be kept waiting and staff are doing all they can to speed up admissions. Many older persons who were quite well should be found accommodation outside the hospital, but no such accommodation existed. Hospitals all over the country are experiencing the same difficulties

1954 03 01

The Cambridge Water Company is to start work immediately on a new five-million-gallon reservoir on Lime Kiln Hill which will double the reserves of water. Rainfall during the winter months had been substantially below average and the replenishment of underground water storage severely diminished. A low rainfall next year might endanger their ability to maintain supplies during periods of peak demand. Improvement had also been made to the Fulbourn Pumping Station where new machinery would soon be installed; this will afford temporary relief from the situation where demand for water had equalled their maximum yield

1954 03 22

The problem of overcrowding in the female wards at Fulbourn Hospital was described to the Management Committee. Mr Stubbs said: "There have been only 80 beds installed since the turn of the century. Patients are so crammed together in one ward that they have to go outside to change and then go back to bed. It is a matter of a few inches between one bed and another. We have people in here and really we have not enough room for them. They say we have to have them. We shall arrive at a point where we shall have to put them in passages."

1954 05 28

A new female tuberculosis wing has been opened at Fulbourn Mental Hospital. Bright and airy, with beds for 14 patients, it is the first completely new building there since the war. Modern treatment has done much to reduce the menace of TB but sudden and instant tragedy can spring up, especially in the young from transmission of the disease from an adult. Infection diseases was one of the nightmares in hospitals, especially those in which there was likely to be a prolonged stay, and it was frustrating not to have the proper resources for preventing the spread of infection. In the past the mental hospital service has been somewhat isolated but it is now becoming part of a fully-integrated service. But East Anglia is the only region without a costly neuro-surgery unit.

1954 07 27

Membership of the Cambridgeshire Local History Council has increased, attendance at meetings and excursions is higher than ever & the Bulletin had been published more or less on time, but there is still much to do. Local History groups in Sawston and Fulbourn are flourishing but there are large areas of the county that are sadly undeveloped as far as local history is concerned. They needed more village correspondents and anybody with old pictures of their village should notify them. There would be a room built at the Shire Hall in the future for the archives and it would be a good thing to get the interest of school children.

1954

Fulbourn waterworks pumping station was reopened. Beneath the pump and control rooms is a 60,000-gallon tank. The pumps are driven by direct-current motors capable of pumping 90,000 gallons an hour to a jet chamber where dissolved carbon-dioxide is released, reducing corrosion. An

efficient electricity supply and the duplication of all plant renders any breakdown almost impossible. A five-million gallon reservoir is under construction at Cherry Hinton which will bring water reserves up to two days instead of one as at present.

1954 10 13

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1954 12 17

Electricity supplies have been inadequate in the Newmarket area for some time but now a large bulk supply point has been installed at Fulbourn Old Drift and fed from the Barford Power Station. For months the huge overhead lines have been making their way across country. Previously the initial 132,000 volts supply had to be transferred down to 33,000 volts and carried overland but now with the new high tension system it will reach Fulbourn at the maximum level. It will help areas that have previously suffered from a serious drop in voltage during winter months.

1955 05 23

Fulbourn Hospital is faced with the serious threat of a shortage of trained and experienced mental nurses, although French girls have been employed as assistants. A new programme of occupation has been developed; the wards are now empty by day with many men employed on the farm, in the gardens and in the works department doing meaningful work. A 'Darby and Joan' club formed for unemployable old folk has proved a great success. 55 05 23a

1955 07 23

Housewives turning on their taps in Fulbourn, Teversham and the Wilbrahams found the softened water, for which they have asked so long, flowing into their sinks, baths and washtubs. Cherry Hinton water softening station opened in 1935 but the laying of a new main from Fleam Dyke Pumping Station was stopped by the war and finally finished only four days ago. 55 07 23

1955 10 27

Fulbourn has been developed as far as it can be and if a further 500 houses are put there it will be tighter still. It was never intended that we should be packed together like sardines in the way planners are intending today, an inquiry was told. "If we carry out this scheme of infilling we shall never be able to build a house without it overlooks a neighbour's kitchen or the washing on the line", Mr W.J. Taylor complained. 55 10 27

1956 03 03

A new villa to accommodate 40 female patients at Fulbourn Mental Hospital was opened by the Minister of Health. It will be used as a social therapy unit. He referred to the 'terribly cramped conditions', saying 'if you had 900 villagers living like this you would say the Government must take immediate steps to put in right. That is the problem at Fulbourn and is typical of what is happening all over the country'. 56 03 03a, b & d

1958 06 15

Council house tenants in School Lane, Fulbourn protested about plans to shorten their gardens to provide space for new homes. But their gardens were much larger than average. It worked out at seven houses to the acre, whilst today it is necessary to build 10 or sometimes twelve. If the Council didn't take the land there would be seven new houses without any gardens at all. 57 06 15 & a

1958 05 01

Should there be a footpath between a new estate off Doggett's Lane in Fulbourn and Ludlow Green? That is the question to be decided by a Government inspector. It is the last remaining place of real beauty in the village and people do not want to see a wooden fence there. The owner of Flendyshe House said the path would run alongside her property and people who had to suffer wooden fences alongside should have some compensation. 58 05 01

1958 10 29

Four of the eight houses in Hinton Road, Fulbourn were condemned as 'unfit for human habitation' by the RDC who told the owner they could not be let unless they were bought up to standard. They then bought them from him at a low price and now proposed to make minimum improvements and rent them to 'problem families. It was a bad thing to move such families and re-house them en block in what would soon degenerate into slum property, the parish council claimed. 58 10 29b

1958 12 29

On Boxing Day the Mayor visited Fulbourn Hospital where he gave the traditional 'kick-off' in the football match between patients and staff. The wards had been decorated with loving care while in the sick bay the nurses had painted some beautiful Christmas scenes on the walls. Many of the wards were filled with exotic fruits and flowers made out of paper, some by the Sisters in their spare time and others with the help of patients. Television now plays a large part in the life of the wards and viewing and singing carols took up much of the holiday. 58 12 29

1959 03 23

Fulbourn and Riversfield Hospital Management Committee will 'not even think' of parting with their Riversfield Home for mentally defective children – in spite of the Ministry of Health suggesting that the 'reasonably small, accessible and fairly modern' home could be made into a useful hostel under changes proposed in the Mental Health Services. There was nowhere in the Eastern Region run so efficiently as this little place and until the Ministry can provide a place of similar comfort for these little ones, they will not think of parting with it. 59 03 23

1959 03 31

Sir – I must say something about the lighting at Fulbourn station. In these days of 'modernisation' of the railways it seems incredible that they still use oil lamps as the sole source of illumination. Apart from the obvious difficulties of trying to walk along a platform in pitch darkness, it is extremely difficult to see whether one is producing a ticker for the ticket-collector or just a piece of paper – Timothy Oldcastle. 59 03 31c

1959 07 09

Firefighters summoned to Fulbourn Garage found it well alight with fire spreading to thatched cottages on either side. Oxyacetylene and oxygen bottles were removed by the firemen who braved the explosions of the petrol tanks of cars, tins of paint and celluloid. They also saved three petrol pumps on the forecourt, which had been filled only that morning. The garage was gutted and three cars inside completely destroyed, one of them belonging to Denys Burgess, the owner. Two bedrooms of his adjoining house were burnt out and half the thatched roof of a nearby cottage destroyed. 59 07 09a & b

1959 09 12

Old chairs, shoes linoleum, carpets, brushes ... these are just some of the things that have been left littering the Old Roman Road at Fulbourn. Cars have also been dismantled there. Gypsies are alleged to be chiefly responsible but picnic parties and late night revellers also play a part in desecrating the area. A nearby spinney is another unauthorised rubbish dump and the surrounding countryside frequently littered with broken bottles. What is really dangerous are pieces of glass which can be harmful to children and horses. 59 09 12a

1959 10 01

Fulbourn Almshouses that were built in 1864 have been renovated. At one time they consisted of one living room, one bedroom and a lean-to shed which served as storeroom and scullery. There was no waterborne sanitation. Now each has a kitchen with hot and cold water, an electric cooker, a bathroom with a w.c. and a coal store. The improvements have been carried out at cost price by the Cambridge University and Town Waterworks Company. 59 10 01 d & e

1959 10 14

Cambridge Waterworks Company has managed full unrestricted supplies throughout every drought when elsewhere in the country water has been rationed. But in July torrential rain caused electric power failures which cut out the pumps at Fulbourn and Great Wilbraham. It also flooded the basement of the Fleam Dyke Pumping Station and thousands of gallons of oily water drained back into the well, causing pollution. Despite all this they still maintained supplies from the reservoirs at Cherry Hinton. 59 10 14 & a

1959 12 30

Four cottages remaining on the demolition site at Hinton Road, Fulbourn, are to be improved to make them safe for residence. They had been condemned as unfit for human habitation in 1958 and had since been left empty. They were needed for families from the Bourn huts but the immediate urgency has now gone. There is a certain need for sub-standard property but at least the fabric must be good, councillors decided. 59 12 30a

***1960 the Cambridgeshire Collection has newspaper cuttings files from this date***

1960 01 23

After solving many problems associated with custodialism – locked doors, padded rooms, restraint and violence – Fulbourn Hospital found themselves confronted with a more difficult problem – apathy. The patients were reasonably well-behaved and went regularly to work but afterwards they just sat in their armchairs gazing at the television. Now a series of projects have been developed, the best involving patients and staff on an equal footing on a job all considered valuable. As social therapy developed the attendance at major hospital functions such as concerts, plays and even the cinema, has fallen off, Dr D.H. Clark reported. 60 01 23a

1960 05 13

Mrs M Lambeth of Fulbourn has done much to revive corn dollies, the straw plaited symbols of a successful harvest. It is one of the oldest crafts in existence and different counties have their own traditional design. The umbrella and the bell represent Cambridgeshire. It was the custom to make them of the last corn in the field ‘after the devil has been thrashed out’. They were then hung in churches in thanks for a successful harvest and the old dolly burnt. 60 05 13

1961 03 17

Gone are the days of custodialism at Fulbourn Hospital; gone are the days of locked doors, padded rooms and ever-watchful gaolers. In their place has evolved an open hospital with a relaxed, homely atmosphere with no suggestion of the stigma which has at times been attached to it. Ten years ago there were few effective treatments for mental illnesses but now through various therapies and drugs even the most acute cases no longer need to be imprisoned under lock and key. In the Derby and Joan Club the elderly and most disturbed people spend the days playing dominoes, cards and board games while patients in the Ely Ward travel into Cambridge each morning to work 60 06 24a Fulbourn windmill to be restored – 61 03 17b

1961 10 27

New garage at Fulbourn – advert 61 10 27e

1962 08 30

The new admissions villa at Fulbourn Hospital will accommodate 95 voluntary patients in a general atmosphere more like that of an hotel. It will be completely self-contained and stands in open arable land next to the existing hospital. Unusual in construction, it consists of pre-cast concrete framework

with precast artificial stone facing panels and purpose-made timber windows. There are large panes of glass and many rooms open directly on to gardens giving no sense of confinement. 62 08 30

1962 09 26

The new register of buildings of 'special architectural or historic interest' features houses, pubs and even mile stones. The Ministry thinks most of the parish churches are worth maintaining as are some village halls and windmills. The list includes a dovecote in Church Street, Comberton, The Three Tuns pub at Fen Drayton – once the Old Guildhall, Chiver's windmill at Impington, the obelisk at St Margaret's Mount, Harston and a statue in the grounds of Fulbourn Manor 62 09 26a

1963 06 10

Fire severely damaged the picturesque Tudor period 'Six Bells' public house in Fulbourn High Street, destroying much of the landlord's living accommodation and property. The blaze began in the eaves and spread to the rest of the recently-rethatched roof. The public house is over 350 years old and has been recently scheduled for preservation. Emergency precautions were taken at the Fulbourn Garage, across the road, which was destroyed by fire almost four years ago. 63 06 10a

1963 12 10

Six months ago about all that was standing at the Six Bells public house, Fulbourn, after a fire had gutted the building, was the public bar. Now restoration work has been completed. Originally the roof was thatched with Norfolk reed which was replaced by straw. Now it is reed again 63 12 10b

1964 05 07

Fulbourn Hospital, new Kent House opened by Duchess of Kent – 64 05 07a

1964 07 05

Fulbourn photo feature – 64 07 05b

1965 02 05

Fulbourn Hospital sports pavilion & social club opened – 65 02 05c

1965 02 08

A great deal of money is spent on training scientists at the university and village colleges. If light industrial firms were encouraged to come to Cambridge and set up small factories employing 50 people, there would be a ready supply of skilled technicians, creating better employment prospects, says Coun. Ron Thulborn of Fulbourn. He is against heavy industry. The city council has been pressing county planners to lift their ban on industrial development. But they say it would alter the whole concept of Cambridge as a university town and allow it to grow in size out of hand 65 02 08b

1965 10 12

Fulbourn Ida Darwin Hospital – first 32-bedroomed villa on schedule – 65 10 12b

1970 03 10

Fulbourn Hospital renovation – feature – 70 03 10

1973 01 12

In the medical field a health centre is a social parallel to a village college. A health centre provides a very wide range of services and facilities to its "customers" all in one place. While Cambridgeshire was not among the real pioneers it has certainly joined the vanguard quickly. For it is now believed that there are more general practitioners based in Cambridgeshire Health centres, as a percentage, than anywhere else in the country. And this has all happened since the first health centre in the county was opened at March in 1969. Sawston, Littleport and Whittlesey followed that year. Ely and Soham got similar centres in 1971, two more at Bar Hill and Fulbourn are now being built for opening next spring

1973 04 04

Proposals to eat into the Green Belt between Cherry Hinton and Fulbourn to help solve the Cambridge city housing problems were given a rough ride yesterday by Chesterton Rural District Council, who are responsible for much of the area involved. The proposals include a 1,200 unit housing programme for a 105-acre site on the borders of the city and Chesterton rural district. They would be built to meet the city's housing needs up to 1978. Land outside the city was investigated recently by the city and county planning authorities who favoured the Cherry Hinton site - but Chesterton councillors were upset at the likely intrusion into the green belt

1974 03 19

Last week psychiatric nurse Jock Watson was in charge of wards full of mentally ill patients at the Ida Darwin Hospital, Fulbourn. This week he's back with a brush and a bucket scrubbing out the same wards in his new job as a hospital domestic – and he's £5 a week better off. After 16 years' experience he was earning a basic wage of only £26.98 a week. Some male nurses work a 72-hour week occasionally and hardly see £25.

1975 07 02

Fifty patients were led to safety as fire raged through part of Fulbourn psychiatric hospital. The blaze began in the music room in the recreation block at Kent House, a unit established within the hospital 11 years ago as a residential and day centre dealing with psychiatric disorders. The house was empty, as the tenants had moved out that morning to a new home in Soham

1975 11 21

Work started this week to preserve the surviving timbers of Fulbourn windmill. It will be the start of a four-year plan of restoration aimed at reviving the 167-year-old mill to its former looks. But sadly the ancient structure will never grind wheat again as the estimate for complete restoration back to a working mill is nearly £30,000. However an enthusiastic band of volunteers hope to set up a windmill society to financially support the restoration. It is at present owned by Dr Leslie Woollaston who has offered it to the trust and is 'delighted' to see the work being carried out.

1976 01 22

As the Alcoholism Treatment Unit at Fulbourn reaches its first birthday Britain's chronic rate of alcoholism will reach a new peak. Nine years ago researchers found alcoholism was "a serious problem in Cambridgeshire". Their conservative estimates then of 514 alcoholics in the county is now inaccurate. The figure is more likely to be about 1,000. A National report shows an increase from 80,000 to 150,000 women showing signs of alcoholism

1976 03 30

The first of three aerials for the operation of a radio call-out system for mid-Anglia's "Flying Doctor" service was erected at Hill Farm, Fulbourn, at the weekend. This follows the Home Office decision to grant a licence to the Cambridge Medical Answering Service for a radio paging and telephone system for the Mid-Anglia General Practitioner Accident Service. The new service should be operating in about a fortnight

1976 11 06

Clearing up after a meal and doing the washing up are not the most popular of tasks. For most people they are just chores. But for the residents of Orchard House, Sawston, they are some of the things which stops their home from feeling like an institution. This residential home for the elderly is trying very hard to give residents a sense of independence and freedom. It is divided up into five communal flats each shared by eight people with its own kitchen, sitting and dining rooms. The House is the third of its kind to be built in the area – there are others at Fulbourn and Toft – and will be opening a day centre for elderly people to visit during the week to have a bath, see a chiropodist or have their hair done.

1977 02 09

The machinery from the old watermill at Little Wilbraham, disused for more than 40 years, is being restored and re-assembled at the Cambridge Museum of Technology, Cheddar's Lane, by watermill enthusiast Chris Hereward. Hawks Mill was discovered during a survey of industrial relics in the area and the farmer agreed to donate the machinery to the museum. Mr Hereward managed to transport many of the parts in his Mini van – although the ton-and-a-half main drive shaft had to go by trailer. Some of the ironwork bears the stamp of a local agricultural engineer, S. Long of Fulbourn.

1977 02 10

Planners took a long hard look around Cambridge to see where development could best be accommodated. They soon dismissed Histon or Girton because they have relatively limited potential for longer-term growth. At Milton there is considerable opportunity for expansion within the new road framework. Both Bar Hill and Waterbeach possess characteristics suitable for growth, but Cottenham is less accessible to Cambridge. Growth of up to 4,000 might be contemplated in the Teversham-Fulbourn area and the same at Bottisham. To the south it would be possible to develop the Clay Farm area of Trumpington and the Shelfords but Sawston seems to have the greatest development potential

1977 11 14

There are almost 400 properties standing vacant in Cambridge according to the Empty Property Action Group. More than 200 are houses of which the great majority are privately owned. There are 1,026 people on the council's "live" waiting list and another 1,400 seeking council accommodation at some future date. Numerous organisations are seeking accommodation for special groups like the College of Arts and Technology, Women's Aid, Fulbourn Hospital and Cyrenians Night Shelter. The Kite and Castle Street areas share the highest concentration of empty property. The city council are worried that the list could serve as a kind of housing register for squatters.

1978 05 18

Fulbourn Hospital has announced a new deal to help ease their cash crisis. If people came and said 'If you take my old father we will come and help out with meals and keeping the old people occupied' it would free nurses for more specific skill tasks. The help would be unpaid but the benefits would be the treatment made available to the relative. The shortage of beds now means a large number of elderly patients cannot be given the long-term hospital care they need. Fulbourn does have empty beds, but not the staff needed to use them

1978 08 16

Doubts about restoring the semi-derelict Fulbourn windmill are likely to be settled by the setting up of a village trust to lease it from the new owner. The Windmill Society hopes the deal will make it possible to continue the restoration work, begun in 1974. Since then timber has been weatherproofed and the aim is to restore the mill to something like the condition of its heyday when it was used for grinding villagers' corn. The main task at present involves renewing the floors and three months have been earmarked for the work.

1978 09 15

Fire swept through the old railway station buildings at Pampisford, gutting a warehouse storing timber and badly damaging an office block owned by a firm called Solo Park. Firemen used breathing apparatus to get into the building and traffic on the A11 was slowed down as hose reels stretched across the road. "You could hear the windows cracking and then the roof crashed in", one eyewitness said. Fire also damaged a stage at Fulbourn Hospital where a grand piano and film screen was destroyed.

1978 10 12

Over the last four years Cambridge city council has completed many major housing schemes – estates like King's Hedges, Fulbourn Old Drift and Walpole Road. And the government's new schools, fire stations and other building also proved a boon to the casualties of the time – building contractors and architects. But there has now been a cut in new town development, and home building involving

architects virtually ceased overnight. In the past year there has been an upturn in private house building, but it is nowhere near the boom of the 1960's.

1979 02 12

Generations of courting couples in Fulbourn are mourning the loss of a stately elm known as 'The Bird Tree' which has succumbed to Dutch Elm Disease. It stood in a hedgerow on the Babraham side of the village near Doggett Lane & was a meeting point for hundreds of couples. But despite its role in the marriage game no one was admitting to its place as a secret witness to their romantic dreams. "Of course I know that tree well and so do hundreds of others, but I don't want to be named and I'm not splitting on my friends" said one elderly resident.

1980 01 24

A shortage of water hampered firemen at Fulbourn when one of the biggest fires for many years caused about £100,000 damage to a garage workshop. The blaze left a trail of destruction including five cars that were little more than charred wrecks. It broke out in a converted Victorian railway goods store which once formed part of Fulbourn station. Only the shell survives now. Nearby was an industrial complex which included huge chemical and paint storage warehouses and a large agricultural engineering business. 80 01 24

1981 03 04

The famous autogyros produced by Ely-born aviation expert Wing-Cmdr Ken Wallis may soon go into production. They can carry out many of the roles of a helicopter but are much cheaper, costing around £17,000. A fighter version was used by James Bond in the film 'You Only Live Twice'. His father built his own aircraft in the garden of a house in St Barnabas Road in 1908; it flew from a field near Fulbourn but was later destroyed in a storm. 81 03 04a

1981 07 01

A startling report on Fulbourn Hospital talks of deplorable conditions for patients and staff in the geriatric unit's nine wards. They are generally dirty and sometimes smell of urine from carpets and furniture. The only place that a patient in Devon Ward can enjoy any privacy is in the toilet with the door shut. Staff fear the situation could worsen unless there is a drastic change of heart by those responsible for allocating funds. 81 07 01 & a

1981 07 30

The Royal Wedding had millions glued to their television sets but in side streets and back gardens revellers found a variety of ways to toast Charles and Diana throughout the rest of the day. In De Freville Avenue residents sealed off two streets and several hundred tucked in to tea, at Impington children of Station Road held their 'street party' indoors – the village hall had been booked in case of bad weather. Tea at Home Close old people's home at Fulbourn was a very English affair with handbell ringers and croquet on the lawn. 81 07 30b

1981 12 14

Motorists faced a nightmare journey to work with several main roads blocked by heavy snow. Saffron Walden was snowed in & Royston and Haverhill were cut off as was Cottenham, Waterbeach, Fulbourn and Sutton. Cambridge police rescued 130 people trapped in their cars and about half the county schools were closed as teachers could not get to work. 81 12 14

1982 03 11

Fulbourn parents fighting the possible closure of the village infants' school say that if cuts are to be made then it is Great Wilbraham School which should be axed. Meanwhile Liberal MP Clement Freud has urged the Government to drop plans to close Witcham School; it has increased its roll from 27 to 30 in the happy, integrated and expanding village. It could be kept open with just one teacher, he claims. 82 03 11

1983 01 25

‘Cinderella services’ – the old, mentally handicapped and mentally ill - are to be boosted following a major change in health care priorities. Wards and clinics at Fulbourn and Ida Darwin Hospitals are to be given a face-lift and the new Hinchingbrooke Hospital reorganised to cope with increased numbers of elderly mentally-ill patients. Chesterton, Brookfields and Ely Tower Hospital will also benefit and Newmarket will get new sanitary facilities. 83 01 25

1983 05 19

Winston House in Cambridge, the country’s first halfway house, has helped hundreds of people to get back into the community, some after more than 20 years in mental hospitals. Much of the impetus came from Dr David Clark, then psychiatric chief at Fulbourn Hospital. After the last war Cambridge streets were full of destitute youngsters, many from homes broken up in the wartime upheaval.

Cambridge Rotary Club approached the SOS Society to see whether the help they were giving to London’s bombed-out homeless could be extended and between them they opened Winston House. In 1958 it changed for helping youngsters to assisting the mentally ill. 83 05 19 p9

1983 09 19

Mentally handicapped children are the latest casualties of the NHS cash crisis in Cambridge which has already closed the head injuries unit at Addenbrooke’s Hospital. Beds at the Ida Darwin Hospital at Fulbourn will be withdrawn when nurses fall sick and vacancies will be unfilled because of cash cuts. The crisis at the 238-bed hospital is made worse because even with a shortage of nurses, the nursing budget is overspent so no new nurses can be taken on. 83 09 19 p1

1984 02 24

Fleam Dyke stretches across the open corridor of chalk downland between what were dense forests above Newmarket and the swampy fens at Fulbourn. Now it is a rich habitat for chalk-loving plants like the pasque flower orchids. Its maintenance was the work of the rabbit but when myxomatosis became established there was nothing to stop the advance of shrub. The footpath became covered with thorns and brambles. Cambridgeshire and Isle of Ely Naturalists Trust has put in working parties to carry on where the rabbits left off and the Ramblers Association participate as part of their programme of footpath preservation. 84 02 24 p24

1984 02 29

Manor comprehensive school has been saved from threatened closure, though it will in future take only 120 youngsters a year and the county council will keep a close watch on its numbers. But councillors decided by just two votes to close Lode school and transfer the children to Bottisham, even though that school did not want them. The infants’ school at Fulbourn will also be shut down and the buildings put to good use – perhaps as a teachers’ centre. 84 02 29 p3

1984 10 19

Ken Wallis, the aviator who invented James Bond’s “Little Nellie”, has notched up two world records at RAF Wyton. Following a measured course along the 16ft drain at Chatteris he attained a speed of 117.8 mph – beating the previous record held by an American by almost 10 mph. He now holds 15 of the 16 world records associated with an autogyro. The Wallis family are no strangers to Cambridge. In 1910 his father took their Wallbro monoplane to a field near Fulbourn for a maiden flight. But after a couple of hops and a bump they called it a day. Now Ken hopes to arrange a commemoration to mark his father’s efforts. 84 10 19 p18

1984 11 24

Fulbourn garage fire – 84 11 24

1984 12 28

FHS Engineering, the Sawston firm which began over 12 years ago in a rented wooden shed in Brookfield Road, has moved into new factory premises on Babraham Road Industrial Estate. They now employ 14 people making equipment used by a wide variety of operators from chemical firms to instrument companies. Their customers include Cecil Instruments, Cambridge Research Biochemicals

and various divisions of Pye. They called themselves FHS after the places where the partners lived at the time, Fulbourn, Haverhill and Sawston. 84 12 28b & c

1985 01 05

A bid to bypass the miners' strike has rebounded expensively on Fulbourn Hospital chiefs. After their usual coal supplies appeared to be dwindling they imported £20,000-worth of coal from Poland. But maintenance work has shown it cannot be burnt in the newly-refurbished boilers as it produces too much heavy ash. At the moment the 600-bed psychiatric hospital is being heated with conventional coal brought in by private haulage contractors. 85 01 05

1985 04 12

A nursery owner had to dash for his life when a giant greenhouse collapses as gales wreaked havoc. Mr Vincent Di Paola, who has been running the nursery in Fulbourn for 15 years, had to watch as guttering started to collapse and 8,000 panes of glass smashed to the ground. He supplies the London market with lettuces all year round and 16,000 plants were lost. Elsewhere a woman had a lucky escape when a tree crashed her car between Little Thetford and Stretham 85 04 12

1985 05 18

Fulbourn may get a football pitch for young soccer players thanks to Ronald Jellings who has left £7,000 to the Parish Council. And if that's not possible the former Sergeant Major, who died in February in the Royal Star and Garter Home in Richmond, wants a tennis court, bus shelter and two memorial sets. He also provided for an annual prize for the best academic achievement by a boy and girl at the Junior School and the parish church received £3,000 from his will. The parish council chairman, Maurice Liles says "It's marvellous that someone who spent time in the village has such pleasant memories of it!" 85 05 18

1985 10 03

Patients are having to bring their own bed linen to Addenbrooke's Hospital because a new laundry cannot cope. Some patients are lying on paper sheets and some doctors are doing their own laundry at home. One nurse said she had not seen any clean bed linen for three weeks. One man walked a mile home to bring his wife a proper pillow case. The centralised laundry at Fulbourn handles all the soiled linen; it does such massive amounts that get stuck in the system when the machines break down, an administrator said 85 10 03

1985 10 30

The Old Rectory at Fulbourn was originally built in 1886 for a rector whose family included 17 children. Consequently it boasts a large amount of space with 1,250 square feet of outbuildings set in almost an acre of garden. This has now become the headquarters of Sibley Robinson who specialise in designs for civil, structural, mechanical and building engineering. They have worked on Harston Mill Research Centre for Cambridge Interactive Systems 85 10 30a & b

1986 04 04

When Dr Neville Silverston arrived as the local GP in Bottisham 27 years ago it was really like Dr Finlay's Casebook. "There was just a little room in my house, with very few facilities" he said. And over at Fulbourn things were just as Spartan "I had to work from a caravan lit with gas". Today there is a surgery at Bottisham and a health centre at Fulbourn. Grateful patients presented Dr Silverston with an engraved silver bowl on his retirement though he will continue his Magpas activities 86 04 04a

1986 11 26

County Councillors have given permission for private developers to build sheltered housing for the elderly on public land. The scheme will provide new homes at Westward Ho! Ramsey, 25 bungalows at Home Close, Fulbourn and accommodation for another 23 in March. Some councillors disagree with doing deals with private firms who might exploit the elderly for profit. But it means a lot more places than the council could possibly afford. 86 11 26b

1987 06 10

A water pumping station at Fulbourn is to be closed and replaced by two others costing £1 million. The old pumping station, which opened in 1888, will be sold raising money to offset the cost. It was too close to a built-up area, posing danger of pollution, and did not produce enough water. The new stations are at a field at the edge of the village and Weston Colville. 87 06 10

1987 08 14

An application has been made to build 200 houses on land at Queens' College Farm, Fulbourn. The scheme would incorporate a meeting room for the Royal British Legion, playing fields and sports facilities including tennis and bowls. There would be plenty of properties for first-time buyers together with a sheltered housing scheme for the elderly. Developers have produced a glossy brochure showing a new relief road to relieve congestion. It is a unique opportunity for the village to have a slip road, they say. 87 08 14

1987 09 18

The Cambridge - St Ives railway line could be reopened to passengers and linked with Stansted as part of a major new project. The service, shut for nearly 20 years, would be launched with a show-piece electric service along the 14-mile line which is at present only used by freight trains. There would be three new stations at the Science Park, Coldham's Lane and Long Road. Other stations would be built or reopened, under plans announced by the County council, including Chittering, Fulbourn and Cherry Hinton. 87 09 18a

1987 11 12

The Windmill School at Fulbourn provides first-class facilities for children with severe learning difficulties. Originally it was known as the Ida Darwin School and catered for profoundly handicapped children resident in the hospital. The only access is through the Hospital grounds where children see adult patients who have been institutionalised for many years. Now they are appealing for their own entrance 87 11 12c

1988 02 17

Three new railway stations at Cherry Hinton, Fulbourn and the Chittering area have been suggested in a County council report. But stations at Harston, Offord and Soham have been rejected on grounds of cost. British Rail plans to build a new 'parkway' station to the north of Cambridge to meet growing commuter passenger growth. But calls to re-open the Cambridge to St Ives freight line to passengers are firmly ruled out. It would cost £4.84 million, greatly outweighing potential income, consultants say 88 02 17

1988 05 18

Parts from the recently-closed water pumping station at Fulbourn may be sent to Ethiopia to pump water – 88 05 18a

1988 12 01

Fulbourn water pumping station was built by the Cambridge University & Town Waterworks Company in 1888. The pump was taken out of service last year. Now it may be turned into a house and four flats. Sale by auction 88 12 01b

1989 11 09

The White Hart pub in Fulbourn has completed an extensive refurbishment programme which has more than doubled its size. It was originally an old coaching inn with stables and these have now been joined to the main building giving it a new lounge bar with plush red-toned seating, high beams and original brick walls. The original public bar will now be used more as a games room with darts and bar billiards. A new dining room offers dishes such as chicken goujons – strips of chicken coated in golden breadcrumbs 89 11 09b

1990 04 09

Fireball terror as resin burns at industrial estate Balsham Road, Fulbourn – 90 04 09a

1990 05 01

Fulbourn Hospital is to be sold and part of its 130-acre grounds turned into a business park under new plans - 90 05 01